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April 12, 2011

CATAWBA COUNTY TO SHOW ITS "GREEN" SIDE AT EARTH DAY EVENT

Catawba County Government will be well represented at the "Growing A Green Future" event, celebrating both Earth Day and Arbor Day, to be held in Hickory on April 16.

The County's Recycling and Waste Education, Cooperative Extension, Public Health and Keep Catawba County Beautiful organization will have staff available at the event with a variety of information.

More than 25 groups will be represented, from GoGreen Hickory, to Lenoir-Rhyne University, the Catawba Valley Daylily Club, Catawba Science Center, and one of the new additions this year, the North Carolina Bluebird Society. Groups provide educational information and demonstrations focusing on preserving the earth, supporting nature, or any environmental product, practice or service offered in the area. There will be many free giveaways, including tree seedlings and flower seed packets.

"Many organizations across the county have been combining events for three years to commemorate Earth Day and Arbor Day in one big celebration, and Catawba County is very proud to be involved!", said Amanda Kain, Catawba County's Waste Reduction Coordinator and Educator. "We'll be there with information about the County's recycling program, events like our Household Hazardous Waste Collection and more, to help people learn about the importance of 'being green'."

The Keep Catawba County Beautiful (KCCB) organization, an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. will also be represented at the "Growing A Green Future" event. KCCB works to bring individuals and groups together for litter prevention, which has been shown to be most effective when citizens change a community's attitudes about litter.

Catawba County Public Health will have a display on air quality, explaining what ozone and particulate matter are and what everyone can do to improve the quality of the air. There will also be information on the color-coded Ozone Action Days that forecast higher than normal ozone levels between May 1 and September 1 of each year.

The Catawba County Cooperative Extension's Master Gardener Volunteers will have a display on the wise use of water in landscaping.

For more information on the "Growing A Green Future" event, you may contact the Catawba County Waste Reduction and Education Office at 828-465-8217 or amandak@catawbacountync.gov.